

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

**Please amend paragraphs 12-15 of the specification as follows:**

[0012] Apparatus 10 further includes cantilever portion 110 having a base end and a free end. Base end 108 is coupled to handle member 100 at about apex 103. Free end 109 of cantilever portion 110 extends at an angle,  $\alpha$ , of on the order of 0 to 20 degrees relative to an inferior portion (as viewed) of one diagonal portion (e.g., diagonal portion 102E in **Figure 3**) of handle member 100, and at a distance from the interior portion of the diagonal portion. In this manner, slot 114 is formed between handle member 100 and cantilever portion 110. Still further, a base of slot 114, in one embodiment, defines circular well ~~112~~120.

[0013] Apparatus 10 also includes hook 115 coupled to a superior surface (as viewed) of cantilever portion 110 so as to be disposed in slot 114. In the embodiment shown in **Figure 1**, hook 115 is disposed between circular well ~~112~~120 and free end 109 of cantilever portion 110.

[0014] In this embodiment, one edge 120 of hook 115 adapts an arc shape defining circular well ~~112~~120. In one embodiment, the components of apparatus 10 described above (e.g., handle member 100, cantilever portion 110, and hook 115) are formed as one integral piece by, for example, a light plastic material formed in a mold to the shape illustrated.

[0015] In one embodiment, bag handles such as a pair of handles of one or more plastic groceries bags, may be positioned on apparatus 10 by maneuvering ~~thea~~ pair of handles through slot 114, beyond hook 115 to well ~~112~~120. Thus, a bag or multiple bags can be carried in a generally more comfortable manner by apparatus 10.

**Please amend paragraph 17 of the specification as follows:**

[0017] Apparatus 10 minimizes the possibility of bags (e.g., bag handles of bags) thus inserted into or on apparatus 10 from sliding off of cantilever portion 110. In one embodiment, hook 115 minimizes the possibility by partially blocking slot 114. In the embodiment shown in **Figure 13**, hook 115 has an edge 120 conforming to the shape of the well ~~112~~120 to block a portion of slot 114. In another embodiment, hook 115 partially blocks slot 114.

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**Please amend paragraph 19 of the specification as follows:**

[0019]        **Figure 6** is a front side view of another embodiment of an apparatus including a round-edged hook 112~~120~~ (rounded at its superior edge (as viewed) adjacent the well 112).